

MINE OWNERS THREATEN TO BALK ON TRUCE

Issue Call for Meeting in
Cleveland To-morrow and
Assail Palmer.

DENY EVEN SEEING PLAN

Say Wilson Commissioners Get
Too Much Power—Town-
send Predicts Trouble.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—President Wilson's proposal for settlement of the coal strike brought bitter criticism from the coal operators and several legislators today. Senator Townsend said that it was not a square deal and would breed trouble.

The executive committee of the coal operators, sitting here, answered Attorney-General Palmer and declared that they had never seen or accepted the proposal.

In an official statement the operators declared they still stand by the Garfield statement, which they did accept, but that the present proposal was different in a great many important respects.

As the most important they cited that the new move went east the 14 per cent. wage raise which Mr. Garfield, speaking at a public conference, said was the Government's last word. His statement was given with the approval of the Cabinet after a long meeting. As of equal importance they declared that the new tribunal received arbitrary instead of advisory powers, as recommended by Dr. Garfield.

The operators did not commit themselves to a refusal to cooperate with or to accept the findings of the new commission.

Call for Coal Operators' Meeting.

A meeting of all coal operators of the country, no matter what their affiliations, has been hastily called for Tuesday in Cleveland. The situation is of such great importance, it is stated, that it cannot wait until after the holidays. The mine owners are expected to outline their stand with respect to the new commission and the Wilson-Palmer-Lewis settlement.

Senator Townsend, who did most of the questioning of witnesses in the coal settlement investigation of the Federal investigation committee, said the settlement proposed was not a proper one. His statement follows:

"I know nothing of any of the members of the commission save Mr. Wilson, who was, I believe, regarded as quite influential in some Administration circles by Dr. Garfield when he was with the Fuel Administration. I think the operators are telling the truth when they say they knew nothing of the present agreement."

"All they knew was the agreement announced by Dr. Garfield. I don't think it was a square deal. It was a compromise and I now can see lots of trouble ahead for both the miners and the operators. Of course every one is in favor of a permanent commission to settle the disputes in the coal industry, but to have a commission appointed the majority of which is against the public is not a proper way to settle the matter."

Statement by Mine Owners.

The statement by the executive committee of the bituminous coal operators follows:

"In the light of the statement of Attorney-General Palmer of yesterday, in which he says it would be an amazing revelation of their own statements if the operators do not acquiesce in the plan which their official representatives have repeatedly agreed to in the settlement of the coal strike, the bituminous coal operators feel impelled to restate their attitude so that it may be clearly appreciated by the public."

"Attorney-General Palmer in his statement of yesterday asserted that the operators had agreed to the memorandum of the Attorney General and John Lewis, acting president of the United Mine Workers of America, laying down the terms of agreement for settlement of the coal strike. The fact is that the coal operators never learned of the existence of that agreement until after it had been accepted by the miners at the Indianapolis conference on December 9."

"The operators did accept the proposal of the Government presented through Dr. Garfield, former fuel administrator, and referred to in President Wilson's letter of December 6. Under the terms of this proposal the mine controversy was to be settled on the basis of the new principles announced by Dr. Garfield. The application of one of these principles determined the 14 per cent. advance which was granted the miners. The Garfield proposal further provided for the establishment of a board with advisory powers only."

"The operators will stand by the acceptance of the Garfield agreement. The letter of December 6 referred specifically to it and it seemed clear to the minds of the operators that it was the intent of the President that the Garfield proposal was to be used as the basis of settlement of the wage controversy."

"The operators never have been consulted in regard to the memorandum which was drawn by the Attorney-General in conference with President Lewis and Secretary Green of the miners' organization. The memorandum goes far beyond the Garfield proposal to which they assented."

Differences Pointed Out.

"The operators point out the following radical differences between the Garfield proposal and the Palmer-Lewis memorandum which was accepted at Indianapolis:

1. The Garfield proposal would have established a board with advisory powers only. The Palmer-Lewis memorandum agreement would establish a commission not advisory in character but with the power definitely to fix coal prices, wages, differentials and to determine the details of working conditions within each district covered by the memorandum.

2. The question of differentials and internal working conditions in the many bituminous coal fields affected by the memorandum are so involved and complicated that a complete review in order to make an intelligent decision would be an interminable task. These matters are of vital importance to the coal industry. The differentials themselves are not in dispute."

3. Furthermore the findings of the commission contemplated by the Palmer-Lewis memorandum, if accepted, would be retroactive without limitations as to time."

"There are other important differences between the two proposals which have not been made clear to the operators up to this time."

"The operators repeat that they have never agreed to the Palmer-Lewis mem-

orandum and that they still stand upon their agreement to accept the terms of the Garfield proposal. They will unite with all the well thinking people of the country so that in the final conclusion of this matter all interests will be faithfully protected and served and a practicable solution of the problem worked out."

Senator Frelinghuysen, (N. J.), chairman of the committee, is expected to issue a statement to-morrow.

ARBITRATORS FAIR. IS MINERS' BELIEF

Operators' Stand Is Assailed at Workers' Headquarters.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 21.—Full confidence in the commission appointed by President Wilson to investigate the bituminous coal industry and determine wages and working conditions was expressed at headquarters of the United Mine Workers of America here today. Ellis Searles, editor of the *Mine Workers Journal*, said:

"The commission is composed of men of the highest integrity and honor. Mr. White, representing the mine workers, and Mr. Peck, the operators, know coal mining as thoroughly as any two men in America. Mr. Robinson is a high grade business man, and there is no doubt that he will be a valiant representative of the public."

Referring to the statement issued by the operators last night to the effect that as yet they had not agreed to the strike settlement terms, Mr. Searles said: "While the miners patriotically accepted the plan of President Wilson for settlement of the recent strike and now place their case in the hands of the commission, it is interesting to note that the operators are balking as if they do not desire a settlement. Before the strike began the operators proposed arbitration and shouted frantically for it. They demanded that the controversy be submitted to a board to be named by the President. The miners rejected this proposition as it came from the operators."

"Now, however, the miners have accepted arbitration when proposed by the President, and the operators are fighting against it. Were the operators sincere in demanding arbitration then, or are they sincere in opposing it now that they have got it?"

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BAY STATE VOTE IS A PLEA FOR BEER

"Local Option" Balloting in
Many Towns Protests Ex-
treme Measures.

"WETS" ARE OPTIMISTIC

Drys Point to Empty Jails and
Reduction in Number of
Court Cases.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

Boston, Dec. 21.—Careful analysis of the tremendous sweep of the "wets" over the "drys" in the municipal elections throughout Massachusetts this month, made by unbiased persons close to the situation past and present, seems to show that the victories of the "wets" contained a large measure of protest against the alleged hardness of the prohibition measures.

By that is meant that voters, in their futile "local option" balloting in this State, have voted "yes" to register their objection to the ban on beer and light wines.

On all sides one hears the comment that "the hard stuff is gone, but they ought to let us have the light stuff." It is surprising, too, to observe the confidence that is held that eventually beer and wines again will be offered for legal sale.

Out and out prohibitionists profess to believe that the tremendous sweep of the "wets" is a result of their failure to campaign, such activity being omitted because the voting on the question held no "practical" application.

It is clear, however, that there was more than this behind the weakness of the "dry" vote in every municipality. This contention of the prohibitionists fails to hold water when one views the result in Waltham and two or three other cities in scattered sections of the State where the local "dry" organizations conducted their customary campaigns, presumably for the principle of holding to the record of the past.

Drys Lagged Far Behind.

In these cities, as in the others, the "wet" vote fairly soared, while that of the "drys" dwindled to small proportions. For years Massachusetts has boasted a large number of no license cities. This year there is no such thing as a no license "column." Only three or four cities in the entire State managed to cling to its traditions, and all these returned heavily reduced majorities.

The last city of the State to vote was Boston, the largest in the Commonwealth. If the "wet" vote in the cities throughout the State on the 2d and 9th was a surprise that of Boston was greater.

It was generally predicted that the "wet" total in Boston would be the largest proportionally in its history and the "dry" the smallest. Boston crossed things up by actually losing ground to the "drys" at the time when a great "protest" vote was foreseen. Boston remains, however, the great liquor stronghold of the Commonwealth, returning a safe license margin year after year with unbroken consistency.

Every one of the twenty cities voting on the question on December 2 registered "wets," though seven of these were "dry" cities. Fourteen of fifteen cities voted for license on December 9.

In a number of cases the results were particularly disconcerting to the anti-liquor forces. Cambridge, for example, went into the license column for the first time in thirty-three years. It is twenty-one years since Brookline has been away from the group of "Sahara" centres, and

in the case of Quincy it is thirty-eight years, which is the longest "dry" stretch in any Massachusetts municipality. Cambridge, where Harvard and Radcliffe spread their influence of enlightenment, "flopped" as badly as the humble manufacturing centres with their large number of foreign blooded citizens.

The liquor forces contend that the results are "positive proof" that the people object to prohibition and are taking that means of demanding that liquor—all kinds—be given back to them. The Boston Retail Liquor Dealers Association through its secretary issued a statement in which it said that "the people have registered their protest against prohibition and have by the ballot made it clear that they want liquor returned to them."

While the "dry" factions are explaining that they did nothing to get out the vote, there is little or no indication that the liquor interests were unduly active except in isolated sections, where the liquor question was involved in other liquor questions of the local election. Everywhere the vote was large, in some cases larger than for years, which takes away from the "drys" the opportunity of saying this "the voters didn't come out."

The prohibitionists' answer here has been to point to the records of the local falls and the courts since the dry era made its advent months ago. This feature has been emphasized with no little persistence, and to date the liquor men have made slight attempt to explain away what the statistics show.

SEEKS CLOSER TIE WITH SPAIN

Villalba Returns Well Satisfied
With Trip to Britain.

MADRID, Dec. 21.—Gen. Villalba, Minister of War, has returned to Madrid from London. He declares that he is very much satisfied with his trip to England. He saw in that country a desire for closer relations with Spain, he said.

La Tribuna in calling on the Government to put an end to the social unrest in Barcelona, says cities with which Barcelona is a competitor for trade are supplying money to foster trade disputes there. This charge frequently has been made, but there apparently is no evidence to support it.

HANSON IN SECURITY LEAGUE.

Dr. Hill Joins Executive Com-
mittee of Organization.

Dr. David Jayne Hill, historian and diplomat, has become associated with the Executive Committee of the National Security League, according to an announcement which says also that Ole Hanson has added his name to its roster. Dr. Hill is president of the National Association for Constitutional Government and served as chairman of the National Organization Committee which conducted the Security League's educational campaign throughout the country last summer.

The league is conducting a campaign to increase its membership from 100,000 to at least 1,000,000.

Robbers Get \$2,700 in Saloon Raid.

Six masked men entered the rear room of a saloon at 511 East Twelfth street last night. They got \$1,000 in cash and jewelry and a Government order for \$1,700 from among twenty customers in the place. Nathan Bodin, who had the Government order, resisted, being searched and was fired upon. The bullet struck his watch, smashed it and bruised his body. The robbers escaped in an automobile.

Jewish Women Open New House.

Council House, 74 St. Mark's place, was opened yesterday with dedication exercises as the new headquarters of the Jewish Women. The organization is engaged in Americanization work. After the dedication by the Rev. Nathan Kraus the building was presented for use by Mrs. William D. Spornberg, president of the section.

HOOVER IN CREDITS PLEA RAPS POLITICS

Sees Glut of Food in U. S.
With Europe Starving Un-
less Peace Is Declared.

BANKERS HANDICAPPED

Farmers Praised for Heavy
Production While Men in
Industries Slackened.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Necessity for establishing credits in this country for foreign buyers if the world is to return to normal speedily is emphasized by Herbert Hoover, former Food Administrator, writing in *Farm and Home* for January.

Reviewing world economics from 1917 to 1921 inclusive, Mr. Hoover pointed out that the farmer here and in other countries had maintained production, while manufacturing, mining and transportation had slackened enormously since the armistice.

In his review the man who virtually rationed the world through the war emphasized that:

"The world situation is such that all our foodstuffs will again be needed if the world is to be carried over without starvation. In the great American export staples of grain, meat and dairy products there is a sufficiency to get the world through, but only on a narrow margin."

"Europe's harvests this year were 80 per cent. of the pre-war normal and will not recover for some time. Russia may not be again exporting foodstuffs for some years. Reduced producing capacity of animals in Europe, due to underfeeding, is more serious than their lessened number. Surplus foodstuffs in the southern hemisphere were largely absorbed in the past year and will be fully absorbed during the present harvest year."

New Crops Will All Be Used.

"There will be no considerable carry-over of food supplies anywhere in the world on August 1, 1920. The world will start fresh again next August, with only its then production to cover the year following."

"The only remedy," he says, "is the establishment of credits in the United States for foreign buyers and seeing that fair prices to our producers are paid under these credits. Upon credits revolves the sale of the American farmers' surplus. Credits cannot be established until we have peace."

"With the uncertainties of ratification of the treaty and the political chaos that might follow from failure to secure its ratification, the American banker and investor has not felt justified in advancing to our producers giving credit to European countries. The consequence is unless we can solve this problem we shall have a glut of our export staples at home and at the same time Europe will be starving. If we do solve the credit problem, these credits should be based on prices being made that will be fair to the farmer."

"On the other hand, following prompt readjustment to peace the world will be more largely dependent for food on the Western Hemisphere for some years than was the case before the war."

Period of Great Difficulty.

Of the present period, Mr. Hoover writes: "We are going through a reconstruction period of great difficulty. We have

greatly inflated our internal credits or currency with all its consequential stimulus to speculation through easy money. We have wild extravagance on the part of those sections of the community that have had larger incomes than they can intelligently spend. We are faced with great disruptions in the course of the world's commerce.

"All these troubles are to be expected

out of a great world war. They could be a good deal mitigated if we could apply our national energies to their solution instead of holding a talkfest over industrialism and instead of jockeying for political position.

"Whether we will concentrate our minds and energies on these problems I do not know, but certainly I see little indication of it hereabouts."

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Brownie cameras, \$2.59 to \$5.41
Vest Pocket Kodak, \$8.59 to \$15.79
Folding Brownie, \$9.23 to \$18.08
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Rexo, \$11.09 to \$88.75

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We have some cameras especially suited for those who are absorbed in the artistry of photography.

Vest pocket Ansco, \$18.89 to \$81.25
Kodak, Jr., \$15.11 to \$29.25
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Leather covered albums, \$1.64 to \$14.89
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